

CALIFORNIA PRISONERS 1951

C A L I F O R N I A    P R I S O N E R S

Summary Statistics of  
PRISONERS RECEIVED AND RELEASED FROM PRISONS AND PAROLE  
1951

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Institution for Women

# CONTENTS

	Page
POPULATION OF INSTITUTIONS .....	1
MOVEMENT OF PRISON AND PAROLE POPULATION .....	3
Table 1. Movement of Prison Population .....	4
2. Movement of Male Parole Population .....	6
3. Movement of Women Parole Population .....	8
PRISONERS RECEIVED FROM COURT .....	9
Table 4. Offense Groups .....	10
5. County or Area of Commitment .....	12
5A. Ratio of Male Commitments per 100,000 Population by County .....	13
6. Age at Admission .....	15
7. Race .....	16
8. Prior Criminal Record .....	16
RELEASES FROM PRISON .....	18
Table 9. Offense and Time Served in Prison .....	19
10. Time Served as Violator Before Reparole .....	20
11. Time Served in Prison .....	21
PAROLEES RETURNED TO PRISON .....	22
Table 12. Status at Time of Return and Time Served on Parole ..	22
PAROLE SUSPENSIONS .....	24
Table 13. Reason of Suspension and Time Served on Parole .....	25
MEN DISCHARGED FROM PAROLE .....	26
Table 14. Type of Parole and Time Served Before Discharge .....	26
15. Offense and Time Served on Parole Before Discharge ..	27

# CALIFORNIA PRISONERS

1951

## Prisoners Received and Released from Prison and Parole

This report is the second annual release which has been issued presenting summary statistical information relating to California prisoners. The previous annual report covered the calendar year 1950. Prior to that, a five-year study was published covering the years 1945-49.

During the calendar year 1951, the population of the seven institutions of the Department of Corrections increased from 11,598 at the beginning of the year to 11,939 on December 31, an increase of 341 prisoners. The distribution of population by institution at the end of each of the last three years was as follows:

Institution	December 31		
	1949	1950	1951
Total population	10,899	11,598	11,939
California Institution for Men, Chino	1,739	1,782	2,096
Deuel Vocational Institution, Lancaster	522	542	475
Folsom Prison	2,775	2,753	2,392
California Medical Facility, Terminal Island	-	662	1,010
San Quentin Prison	4,775	4,712	4,742
Soledad Prison	770	822	836
California Institution for Women, Tehachapi	318	325	388

The greater population at the end of 1951 in both the California Institution for Men at Chino and the Medical Facility at Terminal Island resulted from additions to the physical plant made during the year at those institutions. A new reception-guidance center was opened at Chino to serve the southern part of the State, which enlarged the capacity of that institution by 400; and additional barracks space was made available at Terminal Island so that 300 more men could be cared for there.

## MOVEMENT OF PRISON AND PAROLE POPULATION

The movement of prison population for each of the two years, 1950 and 1951, is shown in Table 1 for three classes of prisoners, adult men, Youth Authority wards, and women. The adult men and the women were committed to prison after conviction of a felony offense in the superior courts of the State. The Youth Authority male group is made up of wards committed to the Youth Authority who were placed by that Authority in facilities of the Department of Corrections for care and treatment. The Deuel Vocational Institution at Lancaster, maintained by the Department of Corrections, has been used since its inception almost entirely for Youth Authority boys. On December 31, 1951, of the 582 Youth Authority males in the Department of Corrections' institutions, 525 were in the Deuel Vocational Institution or the Reception-Guidance Center at Chino, and the remainder were in other institutions of the Department. As these wards are accounted for in reports prepared by the Youth Authority, no further information relating to them will be shown in this report.

The total number of new commitments received in 1951 was 4 percent greater than the number received in 1950. The 3,097 men committed in 1951 represent a 3.8 percent increase, and the 155 women an 11.5 percent increase. The number returned to prison for parole violation was almost the same for each year, except that for the men there was a decrease in the number returned with a commitment for a new offense and an increase in the number returned for technical violations.

A substantially larger number of persons were released from the institutions during 1951 than were released in 1950. The total persons discharged on expiration of sentence, paroled, died in prison, or were executed represents a figure which might be called the effective releases. The total number of

Table 1  
MOVEMENT OF PRISON POPULATION  
1950-1951

Type of activity	1950				1951			
	Total	Men		Women	Total	Men		Women
		Adult	Youth Author- ity			Adult	Youth Author- ity	
Population, January 1 .....	10,899	10,036	545	318	11,598	10,692	581	325
Total received .....	5,424	4,394	827	203	5,451	4,426	807	218
New commitments .....	3,122	2,983	-	139	3,252	3,097	-	155
Parole violators returned .....	904	867	-	37	901	869	-	32
With new commitments .....	390	382	-	8	360	349	-	11
Without new commitments .....	514	485	-	29	541	520	-	21
Escapes returned .....	57	47	-	10	53	44	-	9
Returned from court .....	495	483	-	12	407	389	-	18
Returned from State hospitals .....	5	1	-	4	4	-	-	4
Youth Authority commitments .....	827	-	827	-	807	-	807	-
All other .....	14	13	-	1	27	27	-	-
Total released .....	4,725	3,738	791	196	5,110	4,149	806	155
Discharged, expiration of sentence .....	791	783	-	8	985	982	-	3
Paroled .....	2,493	2,330	-	163	2,761	2,646	-	115
First parole .....	2,115	1,987	-	128	2,364	2,282	-	82
Reparole .....	378	343	-	35	397	364	-	33
Died .....	48	47	-	1	49	49	-	-
Executed .....	7	7	-	-	6	6	-	-
Escaped .....	53	43	-	10	62	53	-	9
To court .....	496	485	-	11	406	388	-	18
To State hospitals .....	32	30	-	2	11	1	-	10
To Youth Authority .....	791	-	791	-	806	-	806	-
All other .....	14	13	-	1	24	24	-	-
Population, December 31 .....	11,598	10,692	581	325	11,939	10,969	582	388
Population increase .....	699	656	36	7	341	277	1	63

effective releases among the men in 1950 was 3,167, but in 1951 was 3,683, an increase of over 16 percent. Conversely, there was a reduction in the number of effective releases of women; whereas 172 were released in 1950, there were only 118 released in 1951, or a reduction of over 30 percent.

The following tabulation shows the number and percentage of men released both years by type of release.

Type	1950		1951	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Total effective releases .....	3,167	100.0	3,683	100.0
Discharged at expiration .....	783	24.7	982	26.7
Never paroled .....	340	10.7	474	12.9
Returned to prison as violator .....	443	14.0	508	13.8
Paroled .....	2,330	73.6	2,646	71.8
Died or executed .....	54	1.7	55	1.5

It will be noted that in the above figures the proportion of releases by expiration was 2 percent greater in 1951 than in 1950 and with a similar decrease in the proportion released on parole.

The California Adult Authority administers the State's indeterminate sentence law. It fixes the terms of imprisonment within the minimum and maximum statutory provision and determines when men may be released on parole and when male parolees may be declared parole violators. The Adult Authority also is administratively responsible for the Bureau of Paroles, which exercises supervision over all men on parole. The movement of male parole population for the years 1950 and 1951 is shown in Table 2.

There was an increase in the total number under parole supervision during the year 1951 of 266. However, the increase in number of parolees supervised by the Bureau of Paroles within the State of California increased 390, whereas the number under supervision outside the State decreased by 124. In addition to the 3,394 men supervised by the Bureau of Paroles in California at the close of the



Table 2  
MOVEMENT OF MALE PAROLE POPULATION  
1950-1951

Type of movement	1950				1951			
	Total	Supervised in			Total	Supervised in		
		Calif.	Other states	Custody or deport		Calif.	Other states	Custody or deport
On parole January 1 .....	4,278	2,838	868	572	4,407	3,004	840	563
Total received on parole	3,571	2,947	491	133	3,749	3,152	461	136
Paroled from prison .....	2,330	1,884	326	120	2,646	2,171	345	130
Reinstated after suspension .....	195	134	61	-	195	152	43	-
By transfer (b) .....	1,046	929	104	13	908	829	73	6
Total removed from parole	3,442	2,781	519	142	3,483	2,762	545	176
Suspended .....	1,121	997	110	14	1,222	1,074	141	7
Discharged .....	1,225(a)	805	332	88	1,308(a)	848	339	121
Died .....	50	43	7	-	45	29	15	1
By transfer (b) .....	1,046	936	70	40	908	811	50	47
On parole December 31 .....	4,407	3,004	840	563	4,673	3,394	756	523
Population change .....	+129	+166	-28	-9	+266	+390	-84	-40

(a) Includes 7 commutations in 1950 and 2 in 1951.

(b) Includes interdistrict transfers.

year, there were also 628 men being supervised by the Bureau who were on parole from other states so that the total number of men under the direct supervision of the Bureau was 4,022 on December 31, 1951.

The percentage of the men who were released on parole to supervision within California was 80.9 during 1950, but increased in 1951 to 82.1 percent. A total of 13.0 percent of the 1951 paroles was released to supervision in other states, and 4.9 percent was paroled to custody or to the United States Immigration Service for deportation.

The number of men removed from parole during 1951 was 2,575. Of these, 1,222, or 47.5 percent were declared violators and had their paroles suspended; 1,308, or 50.8 percent, were discharged from parole; and 45, or 1.7 percent, died while on parole. Of those supervised within the State of California, suspensions accounted for 55.0 percent of the removals from parole; but of those outside the State, suspensions accounted for 23.7 percent.

The Board of Trustees of the California Institution for Women exercises the same power with respect to sentence and parole for women that the Adult Authority does for the men. They also are responsible for the parole supervision of all women paroled from the California Institution for Women. The parole population movement for the years 1950 and 1951 is shown in Table 3 for the women. The number of women under supervision of parole officers increased from 226 to 244 during 1951. Of the 115 paroled during 1951, 99, or 86.1 percent, were released to supervision in California, as compared with 84.7 percent in 1950. The number of women paroled by other states but supervised by the women parole officers of California was 20 on December 31, 1951.

Table 3  
MOVEMENT OF WOMEN PAROLE POPULATION  
1950-1951

Type of movement	1950			1951		
	Total	Supervised in		Total	Supervised in	
		Calif.	Other states		Calif.	Other states
On parole January 1 .....	165	143	22	226	188	38
Total received on parole .....	195	166	29	155	134	21
Paroled from prison .....	163	138	25	115	99	16
Reinstated after suspension .....	17	17	-	23	22	1
By transfer .....	15	11	4	17	13	4
Total removed from parole .....	134	121	13	137	119	18
Suspended .....	62	61	1	59	54	5
Discharged .....	57	45	12	59	48	11
Died .....	-	-	-	2	2	-
By transfer .....	15	15	-	17	15	2
On parole December 31 .....	226	188	38	244	203	41
Population change .....	+61	+45	+16	+18	+15	+3

## PRISONERS RECEIVED FROM COURT

Information relating to offense, area of commitment, age, race, and prior criminal record is presented in the next six tables for the new admissions of both men and women received during each of the years 1950 and 1951.

### Offense Groups

The offense distributions are shown in Table 4. Among the men the most striking change in the number and proportion committed is found in the narcotic group. The actual number of men committed in 1951 was more than double the number committed in 1950, and the proportion of the total commitments rose from 5.6 percent in the first year to 11.5 percent in the last year. Other changes in the offense composition of the men indicate a reduction in murder first commitments, in robbery first commitments, in theft except auto, in rape, and in escape commitments. Aside from narcotic offenders, there seemed to be no other offenses that showed a material increase in the number committed during 1951.

As in the case of the men, the number of women narcotic offenders committed in 1951 more than doubled the number committed in 1950, with the percentage changing from 11.5 percent of total commitments in 1950 to 21.9 percent in 1951. There was a drop in the percentage of women committed for theft except auto.

### County or Area of Commitment

The ten counties of Southern California accounted for 54.2 percent of the men committed to prison in 1951, although the percentage from these counties was only 49.8 in 1950. There was less difference between the two years among the women committed from Southern California, the percentage being 53.9 percent in 1950 and 53.5 percent in 1951.

Table 4  
OFFENSE GROUPS  
Prisoners Received From Court  
1950-1951

Offense	Men				Women			
	1950		1951		1950		1951	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Total prisoners received	2,983	100.0	3,097	100.0	139	100.0	155	100.0
Homicide	152	5.1	133	4.3	17	12.2	22	14.2
Murder 1st	53	1.8	33	1.1	1	0.7	2	1.3
Murder 2nd	51	1.7	58	1.9	4	2.9	6	3.9
Manslaughter	46	1.5	36	1.1	12	8.6	14	9.0
Manslaughter by vehicle	2	0.1	6	0.2	-	-	-	-
Robbery	492	16.5	462	14.9	8	5.8	6	3.9
Robbery 1st	318	10.7	288	9.3	6	4.4	5	3.2
Robbery 2nd	135	4.5	147	4.7	2	1.4	1	0.7
Other	39	1.3	27	0.9	-	-	-	-
Assault	93	3.1	115	3.7	8	5.8	4	2.6
Burglary	611	20.5	627	20.3	12	8.6	10	6.4
Burglary 1st	79	2.6	87	2.8	3	2.2	1	0.6
Burglary 2nd	507	17.0	519	16.8	8	5.7	9	5.8
Other	25	0.9	21	0.7	1	0.7	-	-
Theft, except auto	280	9.4	254	8.2	25	18.0	17	11.0
Auto theft	152	5.1	156	5.0	2	1.4	1	0.6
Forgery and checks	589	19.7	601	19.4	41	29.5	48	31.0
Rape	87	2.9	66	2.1	-	-	-	-
Other sex offenses	149	5.0	160	5.2	1	0.7	4	2.6
Narcotics	168	5.6	355	11.5	16	11.5	34	21.9
Escape from jail or camp	117	3.9	84	2.7	3	2.2	3	1.9
Habitual criminal	5	0.2	2	0.1	-	-	-	-
All other	88	3.0	82	2.6	6	4.3	6	3.9

Probably a more exact comparison of change in number of commitments from the different geographical areas of the State can be gained by knowing the number of commitments per hundred-thousand population, see Table 5. For the State as a whole, there was little change between the two years. For the male commitments the rate per hundred-thousand State population in 1950 was 28.2 and in 1951, 28.1. However, notable increases in rate are to be observed in Los Angeles County and in San Francisco County, and a marked decrease in the rate of commitments from the San Joaquin Valley counties. The increase in San Francisco County, from 25.8 in 1950 to 43.5 in 1951, is due chiefly to the increase in narcotic commitments from that area. The increase in this county is also very marked among the women and for the same offense. The reason is not so clear for the marked decrease among both men and women in the rate of commitments from the seven San Joaquin Valley counties.

The ratio of men committed per 100,000 population is shown in Table 5A for both years, by county, for all counties having a population of over 50,000. It will be seen from these data that there are marked differences in the rates of commitment between the two years in a large number of individual counties. In San Joaquin County the rate dropped more than 50 percent and decreased nearly that much in Riverside and Kern Counties. On the other hand, in Santa Cruz County the rate increased more than 50 percent as well as in Santa Barbara and Orange Counties. In San Francisco County, as has already been noted, the rate increased from 25.8 to 43.5. There are marked differences among several other counties. What the reason may be for these rather striking changes is not known. Whether public attitudes change with respect to certain offenses from year to year and whether these changes are reflected in marked increases or decreases in the number committed to prison will be difficult to determine, but such fluctuations as are known to have occurred should be the subject of further study.

Table 5

COUNTY OR AREA OF COMMITMENT  
Prisoners Received From Court  
1950-1951

County or area of commitment	State population*		Men			Women		
	Number in thou- sands	Percent	Number	Percent	Number per 100,000 popula- tion	Number	Percent	Number per 100,000 popula- tion
<u>1950</u>								
Total .....	10,586	100.0	2,983	100.0	28.2	139	100.0	1.3
Southern California .....	5,932	56.0	1,485	49.8	25.0	75	53.9	1.3
Los Angeles .....	4,152	39.2	924	31.0	22.5	39	28.0	0.9
9 other counties .....	1,780	16.8	561	18.8	31.5	36	25.9	2.0
San Francisco Bay Area .....	2,681	25.3	589	19.7	22.0	29	20.9	1.1
San Francisco .....	775	7.3	200	6.7	25.8	10	7.2	1.3
Alameda .....	740	7.0	171	5.7	23.1	10	7.2	1.4
7 other counties .....	1,166	11.0	218	7.3	18.7	9	6.5	0.8
Balance of State .....	1,973	18.7	909	30.5	46.1	35	25.2	1.8
10 Sacramento Valley .....	558	5.3	172	5.8	30.8	9	6.5	1.6
7 San Joaquin Valley .....	907	8.6	582	19.5	64.2	19	13.7	2.1
22 other counties .....	508	4.8	155	5.2	30.5	7	5.0	1.4
<u>1951</u>								
Total .....	11,030	100.0	3,097	100.0	28.1	155	100.0	1.4
Southern California .....	6,241	56.6	1,630	54.2	26.9	83	53.5	1.3
Los Angeles .....	4,361	39.5	1,147	37.0	26.3	55	35.5	1.2
9 other counties .....	1,880	17.1	533	17.2	28.4	28	18.0	1.5
San Francisco Bay Area .....	2,742	24.8	652	21.1	23.7	48	31.0	1.8
San Francisco .....	752	6.8	327	10.6	43.5	26	16.8	3.5
Alameda .....	742	6.7	139	4.5	18.7	9	5.8	1.2
7 other counties .....	1,248	11.3	186	6.0	14.8	13	8.4	1.0
Balance of State .....	2,047	18.6	765	24.7	37.4	24	15.5	1.2
10 Sacramento Valley .....	589	5.4	187	6.0	31.7	6	3.9	1.0
7 San Joaquin Valley .....	928	8.4	387	12.5	41.7	11	7.1	1.2
22 other counties .....	530	4.8	191	6.2	36.0	7	4.5	8.5

\* United States Bureau of Census, April 1, 1950.  
California Taxpayers' Association, The Tax Digest, February, 1952.

Table 5A

RATIO OF MALE COMMITMENTS PER 100,000 POPULATION BY COUNTY  
Counties With Over 50,000 Population  
1950-1951

County of commitment(1)	1950			1951		
	State population(2) in thousands	Number of men committed	Number per 100,000 population	State population(2) average in thousands	Number of men committed	Number per 100,000 population
Total	10,586	2,983	28.2	11,030	3,097	28.1
Imperial	63	67	106.3	57	62	108.8
Santa Cruz	67	29	43.3	65	45	69.2
Merced	70	55	78.6	71	38	53.5
Tulare	149	91	61.1	147	69	46.9
San Joaquin	201	179	89.1	211	93	44.1
San Francisco	775	200	25.8	752	327	43.5
Fresno	277	188	67.9	283	116	41.0
Santa Barbara	98	16	16.3	102	38	37.3
Riverside	170	105	61.8	168	56	33.3
Ventura	115	31	27.0	120	37	30.8
Orange	216	28	13.0	237	70	29.5
Monterey	130	46	35.4	132	38	28.8
Stanislaus	127	32	25.2	130	37	28.5
Los Angeles	4,152	924	22.5	4,361	1,147	26.3
Humboldt	69	15	21.7	76	20	26.3
San Bernardino	282	63	22.3	300	71	23.7
Solano	105	36	34.3	110	26	23.6
Kern	228	93	40.8	233	54	23.2
Butte	65	13	20.0	65	15	23.1
San Diego	557	141	25.3	607	139	22.9
Sacramento	277	52	18.8	303	69	22.8
Alameda	740	171	23.1	742	139	18.7
Contra Costa	299	72	24.1	315	57	18.1
Santa Clara	291	60	20.6	320	55	17.2
San Luis Obispo	50	18	35.3	56	6	10.7
San Mateo	236	24	10.2	259	24	9.3
Marin	86	9	10.5	87	7	8.0
Sonoma	103	11	10.7	107	8	7.5
Remaining 30 counties	588	214	36.4	614	234	38.1

(1) Listed in order of descending ratio values for 1951.

(2) United States Bureau of Census, April 1, 1950.

California Taxpayers' Association, The Tax Digest, February, 1952.



### Age at Admission

There was a slight shift to a lower age distribution in those committed to prison in 1951 as compared with 1950 for both men and women. The median age for men changed from 30.5 years in 1950 to 29.7 in 1951 and for the women, from 30.8 to 29.5 years. The age data presented in Table 6 indicate further that for the men the proportion under 25 at the time of admission increased from 26.7 percent in 1950 to 27.8 percent in 1951. In the case of the women, however, the percentage under 25 years actually decreased from 26.6 in 1950 to 23.8 in 1951. The number of women in the age group 25-29 showed a marked rise. Although this group composed only 20 percent of the women in 1950, it accounted for 29 percent of those committed in 1951.

### Race

There was a slight shift in racial distribution of 1951 admissions as compared with those received in 1950 (Table 7). Among the men the proportion of Mexicans and Negroes increased, while the proportion of whites decreased. Among the women there was an increase in the Negro group, a decrease in the white, and no change in the proportion classed as Mexicans. Although Negroes accounted for only one-fifth of the total commitments among the men, they composed nearly one-third of the commitments of women.

### Prior Criminal Record

The prior criminal record of each man committed to prison is carefully classified from the identification records received from the Federal Bureau of Investigation and the State Bureau of Criminal Identification and Investigation and from the information made available in the reception-guidance centers by interviews with the man. Table 8 shows the classification of the admissions of both 1950 and 1951 according to type of prior criminal records. There were fewer

Table 6  
AGE AT ADMISSION  
Prisoners Received From Court  
1950-1951

Age at admission in years	Men				Women			
	1950		1951		1950		1951	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Total prisoners received .....	2,983	100.0	3,097	100.0	139	100.0	155	100.0
Under 20 .....	67	2.2	48	1.6	8	5.7	7	4.5
15-17 .....	4	0.1	3	0.1	1	0.7	-	-
18 .....	19	0.6	3	0.3	1	0.7	1	0.6
19 .....	44	1.5	37	1.2	6	4.3	6	3.9
20-24 .....	732	24.5	813	26.2	29	20.9	30	19.3
20 .....	94	3.1	81	2.6	4	2.9	3	1.9
21 .....	125	4.2	155	5.0	3	2.2	5	3.2
22 .....	179	6.0	193	6.2	6	4.2	8	5.2
23 .....	173	5.8	206	6.7	8	5.8	5	3.2
24 .....	161	5.4	178	5.7	8	5.8	9	5.8
25-29 .....	645	21.6	736	23.8	28	20.1	45	29.0
30-34 .....	484	16.2	457	14.8	30	21.6	29	18.7
35-39 .....	363	12.2	352	11.4	18	13.0	13	8.4
40-44 .....	258	8.7	247	8.0	11	7.9	15	9.7
45-49 .....	181	6.1	178	5.7	6	4.2	8	5.2
50-54 .....	116	3.9	143	4.6	3	2.2	5	3.2
55-59 .....	67	2.2	71	2.3	3	2.2	1	0.7
60 and over .....	70	2.4	52	1.6	3	2.2	2	1.3
Median age .....	30.5		29.7		30.8		29.5	
Percent under 25 .....		26.7		27.8		26.6		23.8

Table 7

RACE  
Prisoners Received From Court  
1950-1951

Racial group	Men				Women			
	1950		1951		1950		1951	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Total.....	2,983	100.0	3,097	100.0	139	100.0	155	100.0
White .....	1,955	65.5	1,900	61.4	87	62.6	90	58.1
Mexican .....	415	13.9	496	16.0	8	5.8	9	5.8
Negro.....	557	18.7	616	19.9	38	27.3	51	32.9
All other .....	56	1.9	85	2.7	6	4.3	5	3.2
Indian .....	24	0.8	22	0.7	6	4.3	4	2.6
Chinese .....	14	0.5	33	1.1	-	-	-	-
Japanese .....	5	0.2	2	0.1	-	-	-	-
Hawaiian .....	3	0.1	4	0.1	-	-	1	0.6
Filipino .....	10	0.3	17	0.5	-	-	-	-
Other .....	-	-	7	0.2	-	-	-	-

Table 8

PRIOR CRIMINAL RECORD  
Prisoners Received From Court  
1950-1951

Type of commitment	Men				Women			
	1950		1951		1950		1951	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Total prisoners received .....	2,983	100.0	3,097	100.0	139	100.0	155	100.0
No prior commitment .....	617	20.7	545	17.6	54	38.9	76	49.1
Prior jail or juvenile only .....	1,266	42.4	1,429	46.1	63	45.3	58	37.4
Prior prison commitment .....	1,100	36.9	1,123	36.3	22	15.8	21	13.5
One prison .....	585	19.6	624	20.1	18	13.0	14	9.0
Two prison .....	290	9.7	271	8.8	2	1.4	7	4.5
Three or more prison .....	225	7.6	228	7.4	2	1.4	-	-

men committed in 1951 who had no prior record for a criminal offense than in 1950, 17.6 percent as compared with 20.7 percent. In 1951 an increase occurred in the percentage of those who had prior misdemeanor or juvenile records, 46.1 as contrasted with 42.4 in 1950. When greater care is used in the selection of men who are granted probation, the numbers committed to prison show a smaller proportion with no prior criminal record.

The data relating to women show a considerable decrease in the amount of previous criminal experience in the 1951 group as compared with the 1950. The fact that the number of women committed is relatively small offsets to some extent the significance of the rather marked difference that is observed from the data in Table 8. The women committed on narcotic charges in 1951 showed a much higher proportion having no prior record than those received in 1950. This accounts for more than half of the difference between the 38.9 percentage shown in 1950 and the 49.1 percentage shown in 1951.

## RELEASES FROM PRISON

The next three tables, Tables 9, 10, and 11, present data for both 1950 and 1951 showing time served in prison for the men who were paroled for the first time, who were reparaoled, and who were released from prison upon expiration of sentence.

### Men Paroled for First Time

The number of men released on parole for the first time in 1950 and 1951, the median time served before release in months, and the ranges of the middle four-fifths of the cases in each offense group is shown in Table 9. The median time served for all men released in 1951 was 30 months as compared with 27 months in 1950.

As will be noted in Table 9, there are some variations in time served between the two years among the different offense groups. While the major groups show an increase of from two to four months in median time served, less time served was indicated for those who had been committed for murder 2nd, rape, and escape from jail. There was no change whatsoever in median time served for those committed for auto theft and forgery.

### Men Reparoled

There were 364 men released from prison in 1951 who had previously been paroled at least once before on their current sentences. Slightly less than half of these had been returned as violators with a new commitment, and the remainder had been returned as technical violators. Obviously, upon re-release the man who had been returned with a new commitment would serve a longer period of time than would the technical violator, Table 10. Those reparaoled after a new commitment

Table 9

OFFENSE AND TIME SERVED IN PRISON  
Male Prisoners Paroled for the First Time  
1950-1951

Only offense groups with more than 25 cases have been shown

Offense	1950			1951		
	Number of cases	Time served in months		Number of cases	Time served in months	
		Median	Range of middle 80%		Median	Range of middle 80%
Total first paroles .....	1,987	27	18-51	2,282	30	18-56
Murder 1st .....	27	150	120-244	44	160	120-204
Murder 2nd .....	27	64	39-89	41	59	46-84
Manslaughter .....	51	30	16-51	56	33	24-46
Robbery 1st .....	230	36	24-57	301	39	30-60
Robbery 2nd .....	115	28	18-47	141	30	18-44
Assault with deadly weapon .....	73	26	16-41	80	30	18-42
Burglary 1st .....	73	32	24-50	71	36	27-50
Burglary 2nd .....	311	27	18-41	350	30	18-42
Grand theft, except auto .....	132	25	18-37	129	27	18-36
Auto theft .....	108	24	17-33	96	24	18-36
Forgery and checks .....	415	24	15-36	466	24	15-36
Rape .....	54	48	18-97	53	39	18-90
Lewd and lascivious conduct .....	56	42	28-74	65	42	26-89
Narcotics .....	68	24	18-33	90	24	18-36
Escape from jail .....	38	21	14-27	40	18	13-33
All other .....	209	-	-	259	-	-

served 39 months before release in 1950 and 42 months in 1951. Those returned for technical violations and reparaoled showed a median time served of 16 months in 1950 and 13 months in 1951.

Table 10

TIME SERVED AS VIOLATOR BEFORE REPAROLE  
Male Prisoners Reparoled  
1950-1951

Type of parole	1950			1951		
	Number of cases	Time served in months		Number of cases	Time served in months	
		Median	Range of middle 80%		Median	Range of middle 80%
Total .....	343	-	-	364	-	-
After return with new commitment ..	149	39	30-65	178	42	33-70
After return without new commitment	194	16	7-30	186	13	7-32

Men Released Upon Expiration of Sentence

The time served before release of those men discharged during 1950 and 1951 upon expiration of sentence is shown in Table 11. There are three types of expiration indicated, those discharged from prison who had never been paroled, those discharged after return as parole violators with new commitments, and those discharged after return as technical violators of parole. The first group served their entire term in prison and accounted for 43 percent of all expirations in 1950 and 48 percent in 1951. The median time served for this group was 24 months in each year. The second group of expirations who had been returned as violators with a new commitment was relatively small, only 31 cases in 1950 and 45 in 1951, and served median times of 42 and 43 months, respectively. The third group of

expirations, those who had been returned to prison for technical violations, had a median time served, from time of return until expiration, of 18 months in 1950 and 20 months in 1951.

In Table 9 it was pointed out that the median time served for those released on parole for the first time was 30 months, whereas in Table 11 it is seen that those who served their complete sentence and were never paroled the time served was 24 months.

Table 11

TIME SERVED IN PRISON  
Males Released from Prison on Expiration of Sentence  
1950-1951

Type of release	1950			1951		
	Number of cases	Time served in months		Number of cases	Time served in months	
		Median	Range of middle 80%		Median	Range of middle 80%
Total	783	-	-	982	-	-
First release	340	24	12-45	474	24	12-50
Burglary 2nd	49	24	15-51	61	30	18-44
Grand theft	33	24	18-46	33	30	13-43
Petty theft & prior	33	24	12-30	50	21	12-33
Auto theft	27	24	15-37	33	24	18-36
Forgery & checks	62	24	16-36	70	24	18-43
Escape	49	18	12-24	97	18	12-30
All other	87	-	-	130	-	-
Release after return as parole violator	443	-	-	508	-	-
With new commitment	31	42	30-73	45	43	30-57
Without new commitment	412	18	10-27	463	20	11-30



# PAROLEES RETURNED TO PRISON

The number of men returned to prison as parole violators was 867 in 1950 and 869 in 1951, (Table 12). In 1950 the proportion returned with a new commitment was 43.6 percent. The percentage decreased slightly to 40.3 percent for those returned with a new commitment in 1951. Conversely, there was a slight increase in the proportion returned without a new commitment in 1951. Table 12 indicates that this increase was all in that group who were returned without a new commitment but who, while on parole, had been convicted of a criminal charge and served a prison sentence outside of California or a jail sentence. In other words, although there

Table 12

## STATUS AT TIME OF RETURN AND TIME SERVED ON PAROLE Male Parole Violators Returned to Prison 1950-1951

Status at time of return	1950			1951		
	Number	Percent	Median time served on parole before viol. in months	Number	Percent	Median time served on parole before viol. in months
Total	867	100.0	6.8	869	100.0	6.8
Returned with new commitment	378	43.6	7.1	350	40.3	6.6
Returned without new commitment	489	56.4	6.7	519	59.7	7.0
After conviction and sentence	218	25.1	6.5	258	29.7	8.4
After criminal charge but no conviction	159	18.3	7.5	164	18.9	6.3
No criminal charge - technical violation	112	13.0	4.5	97	11.1	6.0

were less returns for a new felony commitment, there was no decrease in 1951 in the proportion who had been convicted and sentenced for a crime while on parole.

For those returned to prison, the median time served on parole to the point of being declared a violator was the same for each year, 6.8 months. However, there was a shift from 1950 to 1951 in that the time on parole for those returned with a new commitment dropped from 7.1 to 6.6 months; and for those returned without a new commitment, it rose from 6.7 months to 7.0 months.

## PAROLE SUSPENSIONS

The number of male parolees suspended, both during 1950 and 1951, is shown in Table 13 according to the type or reason for suspension and grouped to indicate if the man was serving on his first parole or was on reparole. There are four types or reasons for suspensions designated, i.e., felony charge, misdemeanor charge, absconded from parole or commonly called PVAL, and technical suspensions.

An increase occurred both in the number and percent of those suspended for technical reasons and for misdemeanor charges in 1951 as compared with 1950. There were also fewer persons suspended as PVAL's in 1951. Very little change is to be noted in the proportion suspended on felony charges. The same differences are noted when the total number of parole suspensions is classified into first paroles and repardoles.

The median time served on parole to suspension increased for the first-parole group and decreased for the reparole group between the 1950 and the 1951 years. For the total paroles, it was 7.0 months in 1950 and 7.3 months in 1951.

Table 13

REASON FOR SUSPENSION AND TIME SERVED ON PAROLE  
Male Parolees Suspended from Parole  
1950-1951

Reason for suspension	Total paroles			1st paroles		Reparoles	
	Number of cases	Percent	Median time served in months	Number of cases	Percent	Number of cases	Percent
<u>1950</u>							
Total	1,121	100.0	7.0	899	100.0	222	100.0
Technical	63	5.6	6.8	53	5.9	10	4.5
Absconded - FVAL	418	37.3	5.8	316	35.1	102	45.9
Criminal charge	640	57.1	8.0	530	59.0	110	49.6
Median time on parole in months	7.0	-	-	7.2	-	6.2	-
<u>1951</u>							
Total	1,222	100.0	7.3	978	100.0	244	100.0
Technical	104	8.5	6.5	92	9.4	12	4.9
Absconded - FVAL	389	31.8	5.8	310	31.7	79	32.4
Criminal charge	729	59.7	8.0	576	58.9	153	62.7
Median time on parole in months	7.3	-	-	7.7	-	5.7	-

# MEN DISCHARGED FROM PAROLE

The median time served on parole for those who successfully completed their first paroles and were discharged was 24 months for both the discharges of 1950 and of 1951, Table 14. Those who completed their paroles after being returned without a new commitment and were reparaoled served a median time of 19 months in 1950 and 18 months in 1951 from reparole to discharge. For those reparaoled after return with a new commitment, the median time served to discharge was 28.5 months for the 1950 group and 27.5 for the 1951 group.

Table 15 is presented for the first time to give some indication of the time served from parole to discharge for first parolees, by offense groups. There

Table 14

## TYPE OF PAROLE AND TIME SERVED BEFORE DISCHARGE Male Parolees Discharged from Parole 1950-1951

Type of parole	1950			1951		
	Number	Percent	Median time served in months	Number	Percent	Median time served in months
Total	1,225	100.0	-	1,308	100.0	-
First parole	1,073	87.6	24	1,168	89.3	24
Reparole						
Returned with new commitment	48	3.9	28.5	56	4.3	27.5
Returned without new commitment	97	7.9	19	82	6.3	18
Commutations or pardons	7	0.6	-	2	0.1	-

Table 15

OFFENSE AND TIME SERVED ON PAROLE BEFORE DISCHARGE  
Male Parolees Discharged from First Parole  
1950-1951

Only offense groups with more than 25 cases each year have been shown

Offense	1950			1951		
	Number of cases	Time served in months		Number of cases	Time served in months	
		Median	Range of middle 80%		Median	Range of middle 80%
Total .....	1,073	24	15-48	1,168	24	15-60
Manslaughter, negl. ....	41	25	20-30	44	24	18-30
Robbery 1st .....	102	31	28-78	124	33	23-120
Robbery 2nd .....	83	24	28-36	76	24.5	16-96
Assault with deadly weapon .....	65	24	17-32	57	24	13-30
Burglary 1st .....	42	25.5	17-36	47	30	16-117
Burglary 2nd .....	144	24.5	18-84	176	24	15-36
Grand theft, except auto .....	64	22	12-30	84	21	15-30
Auto theft .....	60	18	10-25	59	20	12-24
Forgery and checks .....	139	23	13-43	174	22	15-30
Rape .....	52	32	28-60	46	36	22-147
Lewd and lascivious conduct ..	53	36	28-83	63	38	27-113
All other .....	228	-	-	218	-	-

were some changes in the median time served by the various offense groups as between the two years. The time served for robbery first rose from 31 to 33 months; for burglary first, from 25.5 to 30 months; for auto theft, from 18 to 20 months; for rape, from 32 to 36 months; and for lewd and lascivious conduct with a child under 14 years, from 36 to 38 months. In the other offenses, the change was not over one month and in several instances showed a decrease.

The median was 24 months for each of the two years, and inasmuch as this is the first time that the data contained in this table has been presented, the above noted differences are not sufficient to show any trend or change.